Loss of Foodgrains

3058. SHRI VIRENDRA VERMA: Will the Minister of FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES be pleased to refer to <the reply t_0 Starred Question 46 given i'n the Rajya Sabha on the 29th July, 1988 and state; what is the annual percentage of the subsidy amount accounted for pilferage, theft of food articles, storage losses, demurrage and theft from losses of wagons diverted to other stations during the last three years, year-wise?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (SHRI D. L. BAITHA): The food subsidy is paid to F.C.I. for reimbursement of (i) the difference between economic cost of foodgrains and their issue prices i.e. Consumer subsidy (ii) carrying cost of buffer stocks.

Both the economic cost of grains and the carrying cost of buffer include among others, an element of transit and storage shortages.

The transit and storage losses represent only a small percentage of the total turnover of the F.C.I. The total turnover of the F.C.I, and its percentage t_0 the turnover during three years from 1984-85 are indicated below:—

r Turnover (Quantity in lakh MTS) (Value in Rs. Crores]

Year	QJy-	f Sales	%agcof sh-ovel'Pure: Sales	
1984-85 .	295-14	7585.01	'94	*2* 00
1985-86 .	368.40	8949-10	1.62	1 79
1986-87 .	398.96		1.62	

The subsidy released to FCI during the period from 1984-85 to 1986-87 is given below:

Year	Subsidy (Rs. in Crores)
1984-85	1180
1985-86	1650
1986-87	2000

Strengthening of Pa«ckayatt Kaj

3059 SHRI **PAWAN** KUMAR BANSAL; Will th* Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the institution of Panchayati Raj has not acquired the place in our society as visualised by the father of the Nation. Mahatma Gandhi; and

(b) what steps are proposed to be taken to strengthen the system?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF - AGRICULTURE (SHRI JANARDHAN POOJARI). (a) and (b) All the States excepting Meghalaya, Mizoram and Nagaland and the Union Territories excepting Laksha-